

Amendments In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 17, 20, and 21 as follows:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for a plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, the method comprising:
 configuring the dynamic computing environment for a first phase in the plurality of phases, wherein said configuring comprises
 allocating a first subnet,
 allocating a first computing device coupled to the **first** subnet,
 allocating a first storage device coupled to the first computing device, and
 storing a first set of instructions on the first storage device;
 using the configured dynamic computing environment in the first phase;
 deallocating one or more of the first subnet, the first computing device, and the first storage device;
 configuring the dynamic computing environment for a second phase in the plurality of phases, wherein said configuring comprises
 allocating a second subnet,
 allocating a second computing device coupled to the **second** subnet,
 allocating a second storage device coupled to the second computing device,
 and
 storing a second set of instructions on the second storage device; and
 using the configured dynamic computing environment in the second phase.
2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a development phase.
3. **(Original)** The method of claim 2, wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises:
 using the configured DCE for a first task; and
 using the configured DCE simultaneously with the first task for a second task.
4. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise an integration phase.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment for an integration phase comprises:
executing the first set of instructions on the first computing device, wherein
the first set of instructions causes a first set of information to be transmitted to
a third computing device coupled to the first subnet;
in response to the first set of information, executing a third set of instructions on the
third computing device; and
monitoring said executing the first and third set of instructions and a result of said
executing the third set of instructions.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a testing phase.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 further comprising:
if said using the configured DCE in the first phase results in an error, re-provisioning
a clean environment in the configured DCE during the testing phase.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of phases comprises:
a beta testing phase, wherein
a first user performs said using the configured DCE in the first phase, and
a second user performs said using the configured DCE in the second phase.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein during the beta testing phase,
said configuring the DCE comprises the first user installing the first set of instructions
on the DCE, and
said using the configured DCE comprises the first user beta testing the first set of
instructions using the DCE.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a staging phase.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein configuring the dynamic computing environment comprises installing a new version of the first set of instructions, and using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises enabling access for at least one user to the new version of the first set of instructions.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a deployment phase.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises:
testing the first set of instructions; and
updating the first set of instructions if updates are required.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises a shrink-wrap lifecycle.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises a web site lifecycle.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises an ASP lifecycle.
17. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:
(a) sending a command to a DCE to allocate resources for a phase in a software lifecycle, wherein
the resources include a subnet, a computing device, a storage device, and software;
(b) configuring the DCE with the resources for the phase, wherein
said configuring comprises
coupling the subnet and the computing device,
coupling the computing device and the storage device, and
installing the software on the storage device;
(c) performing the phase using the configured DCE; ~~and~~

(d) **de-allocating the resources upon completion of performance of the phase;**

and

(e) repeating steps (a) – (d) ~~(e)~~ for each of a plurality of phases in the software lifecycle.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the plurality of phases comprise at least one of a development stage, integration stage, testing stage, beta testing stage, beta deployment stage, and deployment stage.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the software lifecycle comprises at least one of a web site lifecycle, an application service provider lifecycle, and a shrink-wrap lifecycle.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”), wherein

the DCE comprises a virtual subnet and a plurality of virtual computing devices;

instructions for configuring the dynamic computing environment for a first phase in the plurality of phases, the instructions comprising

instructions for allocating a first network resource to the virtual subnet,

instructions for allocating a first computing device to the plurality of virtual computing devices and coupling the first computing device to the **first** network resource,

instructions for allocating a first storage device to the plurality of virtual computing devices and coupling the first storage device to the first computing device, and

instructions for storing a first software on the first storage device;

instructions for using the configured dynamic computing environment in the first phase;

instructions for de-allocating one or more of the first network resource, the first computing device, and the first storage device;

instructions for configuring the dynamic computing environment for a second phase in the plurality of phases, the instructions comprising

instructions for allocating a second network resource to the virtual subnet,

instructions for allocating a second computing device to the plurality of virtual computing devices and coupling the second computing device to the **second** network resource,
 instructions for allocating a second storage device to the plurality of virtual computing devices and coupling the second storage device to the second computing device, and
 instructions for storing a second software on the second storage device; and
 instructions for using the configured dynamic computing environment in the second phase.

21. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:

- (a) instructions for sending a command to a DCE to allocate resources for a phase in a software lifecycle, wherein
 the resources include a subnet, a computing device, a storage device, and software;
- (b) instructions for configuring the DCE with the resources for the phase, wherein said configuring comprises
 coupling the subnet and the computing device,
 coupling the computing device and the storage device, and
 installing the software on the storage device;
- (c) instructions for performing the phase using the configured DCE; **and**
- (d) **instructions for de-allocating the resources upon completion of performance of the phase; and**
- (e)** instructions for repeating steps (a) – **(d)** ~~(e)~~ for each of a plurality of phases in the software lifecycle.